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and each given a particular relative weight, before the integration can be made which must be the precursor of conclusion. The optimal distribution of Commonwealth population will vary greatly in accordance with these priorities and weightings. The United Kingdom's economic problems must not be held as inexorable guides to population policy. If strategic considerations were held throughout the Commonwealth to warrant absolute priority, the whole economic régime of the component nations might be modified and merged in a way as yet un contemplated.

Meanwhile variations in environmental influences will affect the individual man and woman just as they do members of other species of animals. The contents of the morning paper and shortages of food, whether nutritionally real or comparatively by past standards, turn thoughts and steps towards the friendly lands of plenty. Migration is in our minds as my wife and I give water to our family at breakfast, because each child has drunk his whole milk allocation on the previous day.

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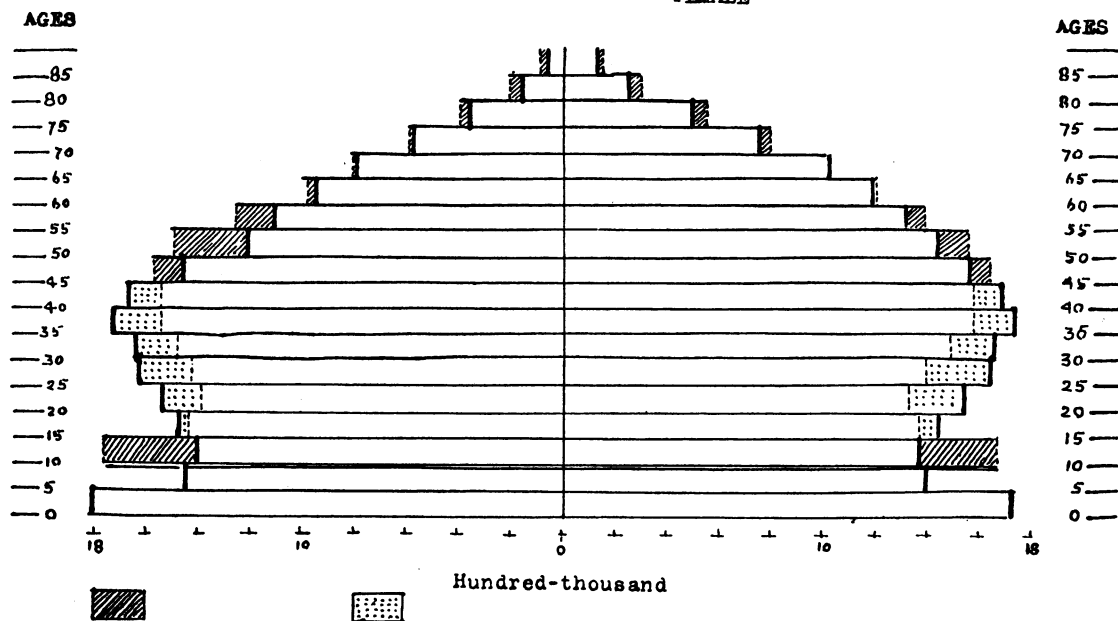
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1 Diagnosis	2 in 10,141 school- children	3 per 1,000 school- children	4 in total popula- tion (56,231)	5 per 1,000 of popu- lation	6 E. O. Lewis 1927, rural	7 Born- holm, rural	8 Tennes- see, rural	9 Germany and Switzer- land, rural and urban	10 Finland, rural and urban
Dull and back- ward ...	599	59.1	1,606	28.5					
Mental									
Deficiency	279	27.1	878	15.6	10.49		8.2		
Neurosis and									
Psychopathy	217	21.4	1,091	19.4			20.7	20.8	
Affective									
Psychoses ...	—	—	199	3.5		2.7	1.7	2.3	0.3
Schizophrenia	1	—	236	4.2		3.3	1.7	7.7	4.3
Alcoholism ...	—	—	220	3.9			3.2	8.6	
Epilepsy ...	13	1.3	85	1.7		1.0		4.2	1.0
Senile-arterio- sclerotic									
psychoses ...	—	—	339	6.0					
Other organic									
psychoses ...	16	1.6	126	2.2					
Undiagnosed...	11	1.1	174	3.0					
Suspected ...	27	2.7	151	2.7					
Total ...	1,163	114.3	5,105	90.7					

Findings in persons under 15 (columns 2 and 3), in the total population (columns 4 and 5) and in similar surveys for comparison (columns 6-10)

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present it would appear that this tremendously important field of knowledge is largely guesswork. Commander Stephen King-Hall recently said, "The public would indeed be astonished and even alarmed if it knew how casually and 'ad hockily' the affairs of mankind are conducted by its rulers."¹⁷ Added to which is the fact that the minds of rulers suffer from all the basic defects of the minds of those who are led. To all of these ends it would appear that research on the lines indicated by Wilfred Trotter is fundamental.

In concluding an address to the Institute of Pathology at St. Mary's Hospital, Trotter said a word about our liking to believe that we are receptive of new ideas. "Unfortunately," he said, "this is the exact opposite of the truth. The mind likes a strange idea as little as the body likes a strange protein, and resists it with a similar energy. It would not perhaps be too fanciful to say that a new idea is the most quickly acting antigen known to science. If we watch ourselves

honestly we shall find that we have begun to argue against a new idea even before it has been completely stated. I have no doubt that that last sentence has already met with repudiation—and shown how quickly the defence mechanism gets to work."¹⁸

REFERENCES

- ¹ *The Instincts of the Herd in Peace and War*, p. 100.
- ² *Ibid.*, p. 101.
- ³ *Ibid.*, p. 134.
- ⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 259.
- ⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 40.
- ⁶ *Principles of Psychology*, by William James, quoted in *The Instincts of the Herd*, p. 15.
- ⁷ *The Collected Papers of Wilfred Trotter, F.R.S.*, p. 177.
- ⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 183.
- ⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 183.
- ¹⁰ Jefferson, Geoffrey (1948), "Scepsis Scientifica," *Brit. Med. J.*, **1**, 379.
- ¹¹ *The Collected Papers*, p. 184.
- ¹² *Ibid.*, p. 175.
- ¹³ *Ibid.*, p. 181.
- ¹⁴ *The Instincts of the Herd*, p. 21.
- ¹⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 247.
- ¹⁶ *The Collected Papers*, p. 184.
- ¹⁷ *National News-Letter*, No. 627, July 29th, 1948.
- ¹⁸ *The Collected Papers*, p. 186.

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